

App. No. 09/779,789
Amendment dated 8/15/2005
Reply to Final Office Action of 06/15/2005

Attn. Docket No. VELCP008XIC

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action of June 15, 2005 in which the following objections were raised: [1] Claims 1,2,5,9,10 and 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ichihara et al. (USP: 5,809,019) in view of Tuara et al. (USP: 6,438,183); [2] Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ichihara et al. (USP: 5,809,019) in view of Tuara et al. (USP: 6,438,183) and Lechleider (USP: 5,410,264); [3] Claims 4,8,16 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has canceled the rejected Claims in the interest of expediting prosecution and without prejudice to such further prosecution as the Applicant may be entitled by way of a continuation or other such filing.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 4, 8, 16. Applicant has amended claims 4, 8, 16 into Independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, and the amendments to the Claims, Applicant respectfully submits that all remaining Claims 4, 8, 16 have been placed in a condition for allowance, and respectfully petitions that they be allowed. Early notice to this effect is solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, including petition fees and extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1338 (Docket No. VELCP008X1C).

Respectfully submitted,

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